

appear more feasible (at least to one who has never worked with *Rubus* per se!) in such a flora; but this may not come to pass for in their article Davis and Davis (*loc. cit.*) mention some one hundred unidentified *Rubus* collections on hand and say that some of these "... will probably necessitate the addition of new species." Perhaps it is fortunate that Strausbaugh and Core got part two of their flora into publication before this further splitting came about.—C. RICHIE BELL, Botany Department, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Diccionario de Botánica. By P. FONT QUER with the collaboration of eminent specialists. Editorial Labor, S. A. Barcelona. Pp. xl + 1244, 1000 text figures. 1953. \$12.80.

Because of the vast amount of information which it contains, Font Quer's "Diccionario de Botánica" might almost be referred to as encyclopedic. In addition to derivations, synonyms, source references, and definitions of terms used in all phases of botany, the treatment of many of the entries includes brief summaries of the subject. The encyclopedic nature of the volume is illustrated by the treatment accorded such words as *formación*, wherein the concepts held by Martius, Kerner, Moss, Clements, and del Villar are summarized; *tanino*, under which three types of tannin are discussed and the formulas given; *simbiosis*, in which a half page is devoted to discussion; and *signo*, wherein five pages are given to signs — from the "shorthand" so frequently used in our early botanical literature to the pictographs of current workers — a much more extensive treatment than is usually encountered. Other significant entries are Lanjouw's abbreviations for the herbaria of the world, found in their proper alphabetical sequence in the main text. These are also grouped geographically in the *Vocabulario Ideológico* following the body of the work.

Forty pages of introduction include discussion of the orthographic matters involved in changing Greek and Latin terms to Castillian, the transition undergone by synonymous terms used from the time of Linnaeus through the Spanish botanists of the 1700's down to the present, and the criteria used in compiling the "Diccionario."

The taxonomic nomenclature adopted is in accord with the decisions of the International Botanical Congress. Terms relative to taxonomy were taken from the eleventh edition of the "Syllabus der Pflanzenfamilien." Plant names below the level of family (genera, species, etc.) are not included as entries in the dictionary, but under discussion of each family the most important genera have been listed. In the discussion of criteria for exclusion and inclusion of terms (pp. xxxiii, xxxiv), it is explained that alphabetical entry of all genera would have made the work much too bulky. This aspect of botanical reference literature is adequately handled by Willis in his "Dictionary of the Flowering Plants and Ferns."

The treatment of synonymous terms deserves some mention. A preferred term is given full treatment, but various synonyms are listed in proper alphabetical sequence and allotted only sufficient space for derivation and a brief definition. Synonymous terms are referred to the preferable term but not to each other.

Following the main section of the dictionary, a supplement of eleven pages of additional terms indicates the care which was taken to bring the completed work as nearly up to date as possible. Errors which inevitably creep into such an extensive work as this are cared for by the three pages of errata inserted in the introductory pages. An interesting and useful feature of the dictionary is the *Vocabulario Ideológico*, wherein the principal terms treated in the main body of the dictionary are grouped according to the nineteen aspects of botany in which they are most commonly used. Under numerous sub-categories here are listed the technical words that one would expect to find in the discussion of such items as protoplasm, climate and microclimates, or pteridophytes. The final eight pages of the volume are devoted to selected bibliographical references used in the compilation of the dictionary.

The dictionary is abundantly illustrated with clear line drawings, many of them original. Others are those with which we have long been familiar, e.g. the *formas biológicas* of Raunkiaer, or the flowers characterizing various families as portrayed

in Wettstein. As to typography, the dictionary is printed in very legible eight point type. It is attractively bound in quarter leather, and the excellence of the workmanship is attested to by the ease with which the book lies open at any page.

There is nothing in English comparable to Font Quer's work; Jackson's "Glossary of Botanic Terms" comes the closest. Even though many of us may not feel at home with the Spanish language, we will find this "Diccionario de Botánica" an extremely valuable botanical reference work. Dr. Font Quer and his eight principal collaborators are to be congratulated on the publication of this volume.—ANNETTA CARTER, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley.

NOTES AND NEWS

RANDOM OBSERVATIONS IN THE HIGH SIERRA OF YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA. Plants of *Lewisia disepala* Rydberg growing in granitic sands at 8000 feet elevation on Mount Watkins closed their petals about noon whether the day were bright or overcast. Cross pollination of *Polemonium californicum* Eastwood seems assured by the fact that after the sepals have opened, the petals for a time remain closed, clasping the well-exserted stigma. Plants exhibiting this behaviour were noted during the summer of 1953 at May Lake between elevations of 8600 and 9000 feet.—H. L. BUCKALEW, Fresno, California.

The editors of Madroño feel that an explanation for the appearance and late publication date of the October number of the Journal is in order. During its composition, the printer then doing our work went into bankruptcy. In this emergency our Assistant Business Manager performed yeoman service and obtained the services of a nearby printer who salvaged type and manuscript. Not being experienced with scientific publication, this new printer proceeded with the final copy without presenting second proofs to the editor. Under the circumstances, it seemed best to include an errata slip in the issue rather than penalize the printer by asking him to reprint a job which was undertaken in part as a gesture of good will. We therefore ask the indulgence of our readers.

With the present number, we have placed Madroño in the hands of Gillick Press in Berkeley, and we are looking forward to the publication of a journal with a high quality of printing.—H.L.M.

On January 21, 1954, at the regular monthly meeting of the California Botanical Society, the following persons were elected as officers: President: N. T. Mirov; First Vice-president: William Hiesey; Second Vice-president: Harlan Lewis; Recording Secretary: Mary L. Bowerman; Corresponding Secretary: G. Thomas Robbins; Treasurer: Richard W. Holm.

Some publications of interest follow:

Karok Ethnobotany, by Sara M. Schenck and E. W. Gifford. Anthropological Records 13(6):377-392. 1952. University of California Press. The Karok territory extends along the Klamath River from above Bluff Creek, Humboldt County, to above Happy Camp, Siskiyou County, California.

A Revision of the North American Species of Lathyrus, by C. Leo Hitchcock. University of Washington Publications in Biology 15:1-104, 9 pls., 10 maps, 2 charts. 1952. \$2.50.

Drawings of British Plants, by Stella Ross-Craig. Part V. Caryophyllaceae, 66 pls. 1951. Part VI, Portulacaceae through Aceraceae, 56 pls. 1952. G. Bell and Sons, Ltd. Each part 10s. net.

Nuttall's Travels into the Old Northwest, an unpublished 1810 Diary, by Jeanette E. Graustein. Chronica Botanica, Vol. 14, No. 1/2. 1950-51. \$3.00.

Artemisia, section Seriphidium, in North America, a cytotaxonomic study, by George H. Ward. Contributions from the Dudley Herbarium, Volume 4, Part 6, 1953. Stanford University, Stanford, California.